

**Proposal of Jan Haverkate and Addie Sierksma, members of the Workshop:  
'THE RIGHTS AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF SICK CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS'  
to change (update) some words in the English version of the Charter of HOPE**

**History:**

The Charter of HOPE was adopted by the General Assembly of HOPE in Barcelona – May 20, 2000. Since then there has been a small change of article no. 1 - by adding a few words - which was approved by the General Assembly of HOPE in Vienna – May 13, 2016. In the course of time the Charter of HOPE has been translated in 45 other languages. These translations have been published all on the Website of HOPE. The Standard serves as an underlying and supporting document of the 10 articles of the Charter of HOPE. This document has been voted on and has been approved by the General Assembly (online) – May 27, 2021 – but it has been ‘approved pending (a) linguistic revision’.

**The current matter**

In the period prior to the General Assembly (May 27, 2021) there has been some discussion about the use of the words: ‘sick children and adolescents’ in both documents: in the English (original) version of the Charter and in the Standard, because these words are outdated. Therefore the Standard has been ‘approved pending (a) linguistic revision’. The suggestion was made to replace these words by other terminology, more in use of today and scientifically validated.

The Board of HOPE had the plan to set up a workgroup for ‘glossary’, with members from different English speaking countries. However discussing the starting of a ‘glossary’-workgroup, the Board of HOPE came to the conclusion, that the list of terms (used in the Charter and Standard) – that would need such a linguistic revision – was quite short. Therefore, starting a ‘glossary’-workgroup seems a bit overdone. The required changes of terms in the English Charter were made – based on the suggestions of three native English speakers, also hospital teachers – and the native English speakers approved of the changes. At this moment the Workshop of HOPE – in charge of the Charter of HOPE – would like to change the terminology in the Charter itself first (later on also in the Standard, but that requires more time). Version A of the attached documents shows the spots where changes have been made. Version B of the attached documents shows how it would look like in the Charter-format, after it has been approved by the General Assembly.

**Proposal of Jan Haverkate and Addie Sierksma:**

The proposal is to change the words 1. ‘*sick children and adolescents*’ and 2. ‘*pupil-role*’ in the English version of the Charter of HOPE – where they occur – into:

1. ‘*children and adolescents with medical or mental health needs*’ and of course also in singular form:  
‘*a child or adolescent with medical or mental health needs*’
2. ‘*role as a pupil or student*’

**Question to the General Assembly:**

Jan Haverkate and Addie Sierksma ask the General Assembly of HOPE to bring their proposal to a vote at the General Assembly of HOPE (online) – May 19, 2022.

Jan Haverkate and Addie Sierksma, both members of HOPE (from the Netherlands) and members of the Workshop (in the new terminology):

*‘The Rights and Educational Needs of Children and Adolescents with Medical and Mental Health Needs’*  
April 10, 2022